

“God is Speaking – Are We Listening”
Luke 8:4-15

“He who has ears to hear, let him hear.” Luke 8:8

Principle: A parable is a story out of ordinary life which is used to illustrate spiritual and moral truth.

Who is the farmer? God.

What is the seed? The Word of God.

“For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edge sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.” Hebrews 4:12

What is the soil? My attitude

How do I hear God speak to me?

1. I must cultivate an open mind.

Principle: The problem is not a lack of understanding but an unwillingness to receive.

What causes us to have a closed mind?

1. Pride
2. Fear
3. Bitterness
4. Sin

“But encourage one another while it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin’s deceitfulness.” Hebrews 3:13

“Get rid of all the moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you which can save you.” James 1:21

5. Satan

“The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.” 2 Corinthians 4:4

2. I must allocate time to listen.

Principle: Stillness is always a prerequisite for receptivity.

“A heart is not proud, O Lord, my eyes are not haughty; I do not concern myself with great matters or things too wonderful for me. But I have stilled and quieted my soul; like a weaned child with its mother, like a weaned child is my soul within me.” Psalms 131:1, 2

"From this time many of His disciples turned back and no longer followed him." John 6:66

"...so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love...." Ephesians 3:17

"....rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness." Colossians 2:7

Principles of roots:

1. Roots take time
2. Roots are hidden
3. I must eliminate the distractions.

"Demas, because he loved this world, has deserted me..." 2 Timothy 4:10

4. I must cooperate with what He says.

"Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says." James 1:22